

# Bemidji Area OEHE Network:



Vol. 11, number SIX

SEPT. 2001

## SECRETARY VISIT

The Bemidji Area was visited by Tommy Thompson, the Secretary of Health and Human Services the week of August 13<sup>th</sup>. During that time he visited the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe, Red Cliff and Lac du Flambeau Tribes. While at Red Cliff's Health Center he met with Dick Reese, NNAHA Environmental Health Officer to discuss poor housing conditions, tribal facility surveys and recruiting issues. When he saw CDR Reese in uniform he did say "Now here's one of mine"!



The Secretary and former Governor of Wisconsin later changed his tune when he learned Dick was a Viking fan. (Just kidding)

## NFPA CONFERENCE

Minneapolis is the site of the National Fire Protection Association's OSHA conference on October 17 -19<sup>th</sup>. Sessions will be conducted on the following topics:

- Means of Egress
- Electrical Safety in the Workplace
- Hazardous Materials
- Medical Gases
- Confined Space
- OSHA/JCAHO Partnership
- Hazard Communication

- Lock Out/Tag Out
- Interim Life Safety Measures
- Inspection and Maintenance of Fire Protection Equip.
- Selling Safety
- Portable Fire Extinguishers
- Laboratories
- Personnel Protective

The conference is at the Hilton Airport in Bloomington. The cost is \$535 for NFPA members if registered by Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>. See Bruce Etchison in EHSS at 218-444-0501 for more details.

## MINNESOTA SAFETY COUNCIL

The Minnesota Safety Council is offering the following courses at their 474 Concordia Ave. location in St. Paul:

- Emergency Response Training -24 hr Initial Training, Sept. 25-27, \$500
- 8-hr Refresher Training, Sept. 28, \$195
- 8 hr Initial Training at the First Responder Operations Level, Oct. 24<sup>th</sup>, \$195
- Guidelines for Protecting the Safety and Health of Nursing Home, Personal Care and Health Care Workers, Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> \$99

## NEW WEBSITES

Visit the Bemidji Homepage at <http://home.bemidji.ihs.gov> The site contains vacancies, Area circulars, staff directory, etc. Also check out the Div. Of Env. Health page at [www.dehs.ihs.gov](http://www.dehs.ihs.gov) This site is still being developed.

## GSA VEHICLE ACCIDENT REPORTS

If you are involved in a GSA vehicle "crash" you will need to fill out SF 91 Motor Vehicle Accident Report

for submission to GSA. If you have questions about what is needed in addition to the SF-91 you may call GSA at 800-325-2958. For body damage to the vehicle two estimates for repairs are usually required. If a third party desires to make a claim against the government to recover damages from a crash involving a GSA vehicle they must:

Complete a claim form (SF-95)

Assemble all crash reports, including police report

Obtain estimates for repairs

Provide insurance company information

## CENTRAL REGION RETAIL FOOD SEMINAR

The FDA, Minn. Dept. of Agriculture, Minn. Dept. of Health and MEHA are sponsoring a regional seminar Sept. 11-13 at the Thunderbird Hotel in Bloomington, MN. Some of the topics to be covered are:

Retail Food Program Standards

Innovative Projects

Food Safety

E.coli-irradiation update

Planning

Code Remodeling-Conference for Food Protection

Food Allergens

Inspector Gadget (new instruments)

CFSAN Toolbox (Wendy Fanaselle)

An \$80 registration includes breaks, lunches and a dinner. See Bruce Etchison for registration forms ASAP.

## JCAHO AMBULATORY CARE CONFERENCE

Downtown Chicago is the site of the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Ambulatory Care Conference sponsored by JCAHO. The cost of the conference is \$495 if registered by Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>. The dates of the conference are Friday Oct. 12 to Oct. 13<sup>th</sup>. Topics to be covered are: Survey Preparation, Pt. Safety Mgt. of the Environment of Care, Mgt. of Human Resources, Mgt. of Information, Improving Organization Performance and Quality of Care Issues. See Bruce Etchison for details on registration.

## PERSONNEL

The Bemidji Area has selected a new Chief of Clinical Engineering in Mr. Bruce Wolfe. He will also serve as the Biomedical Engineering Technician (BMET) for Cass Lake Hospital. Bruce previously served as the BMET at White Earth Health Center, which is currently recruiting for a replacement. Congratulations on your promotion and welcome to the Area.

## FISCAL YEAR CLOSE-OUT

As we near the end of the fiscal year, staff are reminded of the following important dates.

Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>- deadline for use of credit cards

Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>- deadline for requisitions/P.O.s

Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>- Personal service contractor receiving reports and invoices due.

Also, if you are going to be traveling at the end of Sept. and the beginning of Oct. on one trip, you will need to have two separate travel orders to account for the two fiscal years involved. If you have questions see your supervisor.

## CALENDAR


**Sept.- 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>, APIC-MN Infection Control Conference, DECC-Duluth, MN**

**12-13<sup>th</sup>, MN AI Lifesavers Conference, Black Bear Casino, Carlton, MN (see Diana Kuklinski also refer to March Newsletter)**

**11-13<sup>th</sup>, 2001 Regional Food Seminar, Bloomington, MN (by FDA, MN Dept. of Health & Agriculture and MEHA @ the Thunderbird Hotel, Registration deadline Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>. (see Bruce E. )**

**Oct.- 2-5<sup>th</sup>, Intro to Injury Prevention Course @ Radisson, Green Bay, WI**

**17-19<sup>th</sup>, NFPA's OSHA Conference, Minneapolis, (see Bruce E.)**

**Nov.- 14<sup>th</sup>, New OSHA Recordkeeping Regulation, Midwest Ctr. for Occup. Health and Safety, \$195**